

HB 283 -- FERAL HOGS

SPONSOR: Anderson

This bill modifies provisions relating to feral hogs. The bill specifies that a landowner, landowner's agent, or any person with written permission from the landowner may kill feral hogs on the landowner's own property and do so with the use of artificial light outside of the firearms deer and turkey season.

Currently, the penalty for releasing, possessing, or transporting feral hogs without a permit from the Department of Agriculture, is a class A misdemeanor for the first offense, and any subsequent identical offense committed within 10 years of the first offense is a class E felony. Under these provisions, anyone releasing, possessing, or transporting feral hogs is guilty of a class A misdemeanor, must be assessed a \$5,000 fine for the first offense, and forfeit any hunting, fishing, or trapping permits held from the Department of Conservation. Additionally, he or she would forfeit the privilege of obtaining any such permit for the subsequent three years. For any second offense, the person shall be assessed a \$10,000 fine and permanently forfeit any hunting, fishing, or trapping permits held from the Department of Conservation.

This bill is similar to HB 1781 (2016).